



Examiners' Report Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2025

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Chinese (1CN0)
Paper 1H: Listening and understanding in
Chinese

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Introduction

In this year's Higher paper, as anticipated, the range of average marks per question widened. This was primarily due to increasing levels of difficulty across the items and the variation in question formats. As in previous years, questions requiring extended written responses (Questions 6, 7, and 9) presented the greatest challenge for candidates. Some candidates also experienced difficulty answering questions in English.

Questions 1–4 (Crossover Questions)

Candidates at Higher level generally performed well in Questions 1–4.

In Question 1, some candidates appeared to confuse the meanings of "skiing" and "skating".

The majority of candidates achieved full marks in Question 4, which was encouraging, as it demonstrated effective listening and correct identification of the relevant adjectives.

However, some candidates opted to use their own wording rather than the specified vocabulary. It is essential that candidates read the rubric carefully for each task.

Question 6

6(a): Candidates needed to understand the meanings of '好处' (advantage) and '外语' (foreign language). A few candidates either wrote in Chinese or omitted the key idea of "advantage/benefit", resulting in no marks.

6(b): Candidates must read the question carefully and pay attention to grammar and verb tense. The structure '虽然……但是……' (although... but...) was key. The correct answer was "She lived in Hong Kong"; "She lives in Hong Kong" was not accepted due to the change in meaning.

6(d): The key sentence was "不应该跟……一样" (should not be the same as...).

6(e): This question was more difficult as it required reference to a specific time frame. Correct responses included "people waited for more than half an hour" or "cakes sold out in two hours".

Question 7

7(a): Candidates needed to identify and use the relevant keywords in their response.

7(b): The phrase '没有地方住宿' (no place to stay) was central. Responses such as "no place/hotel/accommodation to stay/live" were accepted and awarded one mark.

7(c): '给垃圾分类' should be translated as "categorise rubbish/litter". Generalised responses such as "put rubbish in the bin" were too vague and therefore not accepted.

7(d): The structure '让……' (make/let...) was key to understanding the sentence.

7(e): The words '工资' (salary) and '一样' (same) were crucial; an acceptable answer was simply "same pay".

Question 9: Part (a)

- (i) Candidates must read the question carefully. For example, when asked about “the position of the new classroom”, the correct answer was “higher/better/on a higher floor”.
- (ii) Where the question required the name of an occupation, candidates needed to specify a job role.
- (iii) As a recall-based question, responses had to match the phrasing used in the recording.
- (iv) Some candidates incorrectly compared Luxi to her younger self, rather than identifying the contrast with her child. Since the word ‘孩子’ (child) was used in the audio, answers such as “Luxi is different from her child/son/daughter” were accepted.

Question 9: Part (b)

- (i) The first question in this section also required an occupational term. Spelling mistakes, such as in “veterinarian”, caused some candidates to lose marks. The word “vet” was widely accepted and preferable.
- (ii) The word “training” was key, but candidates who interpreted the context correctly and wrote “study for five to six years” were also awarded one mark.
- (iii) Most candidates responded correctly to this question.
- (iv) In performance-related questions, candidates needed to mention both strengths and weaknesses.
- (v) Some candidates were unfamiliar with the word ‘采访’ (interview), which impacted their ability to answer accurately.

General Comments

To improve future examination performance, the following guidance is recommended:

- Pay close attention to the number of marks allocated and provide only the corresponding number of responses.
- Read the rubrics thoroughly, underlining or highlighting key words in the questions.
- In sentence-completion tasks, use the exact wording provided in the answer options.
- Use contextual clues to make reasoned guesses where necessary, rather than leaving questions unanswered.
- Where a one-mark written response is required, only one answer should be given.